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BEDALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

NORTH RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER,

1965.

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A. W. HANSELL, M.B., B.S.
Medical Officer of Health.

BEDALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

NORTH RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

O F T H E

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the

year ending

31st December, 1965.

To The Chairman and Members of the
Bedale Rural District Council,

SIR, MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting to you my Annual Report for the year ending the 31st December, 1965.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL.

(1) One Medical Officer of Health (Part-time)
(2) One Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector (Full-time)
(3) One Additional Public Health Inspector (Full-time)
(4) One Meat Inspector (Full-time)
(5) One Meat Inspector/Technical Assistant (Full-time)

STATISTICS.

Area	43,302 acres.
Registrar General's estimate of resident population (mid 1965)	8,690
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Books (end of 1965)	2,591
Rateable value of the Area	£259,372
Product of a Penny Rate	£1,037. 6. 9d.

NOTE:

The figure given above for the estimated resident population includes Members of the Armed Forces stationed in the Area, and owing to this inclusion it is necessary to multiply the Crude Birth Rate and Crude Death Rate by their "comparability factors" (namely 1.01 and 1.01) in order to attain the ratescomparable with other Areas in the Country.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Live Births.

Number - 143
Rate per 1000 population -
Crude Birth Rate - 16.46
Adjusted Birth Rate - 16.62

Illegitimate Live Births.

Number - 7
(Per cent of total Live Births 4.89)

Stillbirths.

Number - 1
Rate per 1000 total Live and Stillbirths - 6.9

Total Live and Stillbirths

Number - 144

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Infant Deaths (under One Year)

Number - 4

Infant Mortality Rates

Total Infant Deaths per 1000 total Live Births	27.9
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1000 Legitimate Live Births	27.9
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1000 Illegitimate Live Births	Nil
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 Live Births)	13.9
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total Live Births)	13.9
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total Live and Stillbirths)	20.8
Maternal Mortality (including abortion) Number of deaths	Nil

Deaths from Maternal Causes during the Year

Number - Nil.

GENERAL PROVISION OF THE HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(a) Laboratory Facilities
(b) Hospitals
(c) Clinics and Treatment Centres
(d) Ambulance Services
(e) Nursing Services

There is still need for more accommodation for the sick and infirm but it is understood that a site has been purchased by the North Riding County Council on which to build a County Home otherwise the above services have proved adequate for the Area.

SCHOOLS.

With regard to schools, one of the most urgent matters concerns the Bedale Primary (C.E.) School which is grossly inadequate in size to accommodate the number of children attending.

The sanitary arrangements are also out-dated.

The Council is well aware of the condition and has spared no effort or opportunity in drawing the attention of those in a position to accelerate re-building of the school.

DATA SUPPLIED BY THE SURVEYOR & CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

During the year consent was received for the construction of both the Crakehall and the Kirkby Fleetham with Fencotes Sewerage Schemes and on the 24th August, Messrs. Walter Thompson (Contractors) Ltd., of Northallerton, commenced work on the Crakehall Scheme. Since that time and in spite of the abnormally bad weather at the end of the year steady progress has been maintained. It is anticipated that the scheme will be completed and in operation before the end of 1966.

The contract for the Kirkby Fleetham Scheme was awarded to Messrs. R. H. Fullwood & Co. Ltd., of South Elmsall but work had not commenced when the year ended. Nevertheless the Contractor has stated that he will complete the scheme, as planned, before the end of 1966.

The Sewerage Scheme for Londonderry has been prepared and submitted for approval by the Ministry of Housing & Local Government. This scheme is urgently needed and it is hoped that approval will not be long delayed.

Preparation of the Scruton Scheme was also being completed as the year closed and this should be ready for submission for Ministry approval early in 1966.

Schemes are in course of preparation for Carthorpe with Burneston and Theakston and for West Tanfield, these being the next areas to be dealt with in accordance with the Council's programme.

The remainder of the villages in the area, which have all been surveyed, are to be dealt with in order of priority until the whole of the District is adequately sewered.

Maintenance of sewers and disposal works is by direct labour which is based on Bedale and this system continues very satisfactorily and efficiently. The Council also operate a 'private septic tank emptying service' which is carried out by the maintenance staff, as time permits. A charge is made for this service which is a very necessary one and appreciated by householders relying on these tanks for the disposal of sewage from their properties.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The direct labour service has now been in operation for a full year and has proved most satisfactory. Indeed the Council has been complimented on the efficiency of the service by a number of Parishes. The service continues on a weekly collection basis for dustbins and the small number of ashpits now remaining are cleaned out at approximately six weekly intervals.

Refuse is disposed of by tipping at the Council's tips situate at Leeming Bar and Bedale. Difficulty was experienced in keeping the tips in order towards the end of last year and as a result the Council agreed to the purchase of a hydraulically operated loading shovel for use with its tractor. This is a most useful piece of equipment and the tips are levelled about once every ten days which results in them being kept in a generally neat and tidy condition.

RODENT CONTROL.

No men are employed on this work but Contractors are available who will carry out treatments of premises wherever the need arises.

The Refuse Tips are regularly dealt with by one of these Contractors and are, so far as possible, kept free from rats.

The Council's Public Health Officers are always available to advise in cases where infestations are reported and make general inspections on most routine visits.

HOUSING.

The Council's Slum Clearance programme being almost completed, attention has been concentrated on the improvement of older houses and during the year 28 Improvement Grant Schemes have been considered and discussed at meetings with owners. As a result 8 Discretionary Grants and 14 Standard Grants were approved.

The importance of restoring and modernising older houses is fully recognised and encouraged by the Council as is indicated by its willingness to make Grants available towards the cost of such work.

The area continues to be favoured by private developers and during the year thirteen private houses were completed and occupied and at the end of the year a further 23 houses were in course of erection.

The Council's building programme has proceeded steadily and 16 houses were completed during the year with a further 5 houses in course of erection as the year ended.

During the year the Council reviewed the condition of certain of its older pre-war houses and decided that 10 of these were in need of modernisation and improvement. As a result, an improvement scheme was drawn up with a view to taking advantage of the Improvement Grant provisions of the Housing Acts. This scheme will shortly be submitted for the approval of the Ministry of Housing & Local Government and will provide for new bathroom facilities and a larger kitchen area together with an adequate number of electric power plugs in each house.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

At the beginning of the year two qualified Meat Inspectors took up their appointments and it became possible to institute a 100% meat inspection service. Thus the Council was well ahead of October 1st, 1966, which was the 'appointed day' laid down by the Minister for 100% meat inspection throughout the country. In fact, the 'appointed day' was later moved to October 1st, 1967 but the service was then already well established in the area and has continued satisfactorily. One Inspector is always on duty at the Abattoir whilst slaughtering is in progress and two Inspectors attend during slaughtering hours at the Bacon Factory at Leeming Bar. The two small slaughterhouses are visited when killing is in progress to inspect the carcases and offal. This service is, of course, provided without charge to the local ratepayer, the full cost being met by the inspection charge per carcase.

The number of animals slaughtered in the area was about average and 93,745 food animals were dealt with and inspected.

The most notable feature of the year's inspection is the increase in the incidence of Cysticercus Bovis. This parasitic condition does not generally necessitate condemnation of the carcase or offal but does involve deep freeze treatment for a period of 21 days. After this the meat is safe for human consumption.

A statement, Appendix I, which shows the animals slaughtered and meat condemned is attached to this Report.

FACTORIES ACT.

A statement, Appendix II, showing particulars on the administration of the Act so far as it concerns the Council is attached to the Report. The statement under Part 8 of the Act, being a Nil return, is omitted.

It will be noted that routine inspections are made and that very few contraventions are found. Where any defect is observed the Owners readily co-operate in remedying the matter.

FOOD SHOPS AND FOOD HYGIENE.

40 inspection visits were made during the year to food

premises and in only 3 cases were unsatisfactory conditions found. In all 3 cases the faults were remedied by informal action.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT.

All premises coming within the scope of the Act have been registered but some still remain to be inspected. Generally the premises are satisfactory and many minor requirements in those inspected have now been satisfied.

WATER SUPPLY.

The mains water supply is now under the control of the Northallerton and the Dales Water Board and has been satisfactory both as regards quantity and quality.

Samples are periodically taken at various points on the mains supplies and all fourteen samples taken during the year were bacteriologically satisfactory.

APPENDIX I

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part during the year ending DECEMBER, 1965.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	4,523	168	111	14,010	74,933
Number inspected	4,523	168	111	14,010	74,933
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis Whole carcases condemned	16	10	28	101	235
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1,411	37	10	1,602	7,350
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis	31.54	27.98	34.23	12.15	10.13
Tuberculosis only Whole carcases condemned				1	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	25	4			2,542
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	.55	2.38		.07	3.39
Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	32				
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	32				

APPENDIX II

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	2	3	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	37	25	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	23	30	Nil	Nil
Total.....	62	58	Nil	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found
(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	Nil				
Overcrowding (S.2)	Nil				
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil				
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil				

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred: To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil				
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	Nil				
(b) Unsuitable or defective	Nil				
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil				
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	Nil				
Total.....	Nil				

PREVALANCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Disease	Total Cases	Deaths
Pneumonia	5 notified	10
Food Poisoning (B. Typhimurium)	3	Nil
Scarlet Fever	4	Nil
Sonné Dysentery	8	Nil
Meningococcal Infection	1	Nil
Whooping Cough	4	Nil
Measles	182	Nil
Motor Vehicle Accidents caused		2

It is satisfactory to note that only one new case of tuberculosis was notified as occurring in the area. This occurred in a young man aged 17 and the site affected being the lungs.

No deaths occurred from tuberculosis during the year.

Coronary thrombosis still maintains the position of being the most frequent cause of death accounting for the deaths of 21 persons out of a total of 83.

In conclusion I should like to record my thanks to your Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. J. F. Dunning, for his valuable help throughout the year.

I have the honour to be Sir, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ALAN W. HANSELL,

Medical Officer of Health.